

# THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The First Presbyterian Church  
of Howard County

*Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost*

*Thank and Tell Sunday*

*November 19, 2023*

*10:30 a.m. In-person & Livestream Service*

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## GATHER

*Let all enter the sanctuary in a spirit of prayer.*

Words in **bold** are read by the congregation.

Please remember to turn your cell phones to silent.

*This worship service is being livestreamed to the internet,  
and you may appear on our Facebook page and YouTube channel.*

*For our online congregation - Let us know you are here! Post a greeting!*

*And remember that you can place a request in the Prayer Journal  
in the comments on both You Tube and Facebook Live.*

### **For Meditation before Worship** *(for personal use before worship)*

*Gratitude bestows reverence, allowing us to encounter everyday epiphanies,  
those transcendent moments of awe that change forever how we experience life and the world.*

*John Milton*

### **Prelude**

Here I Am, Lord

*Daniel Schutte, arr. Jack Schrader*

### **Greeting and Lighting the Christ Candle**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

God has been our dwelling place from generation to generation.

**From everlasting to everlasting. God is with us.**

Whenever we light this candle, we proclaim:

**Christ is the light of the world and the center of our lives.**

*Please fill out the red Friendship Pad in each pew.*

*Newcomers please leave us your address and contact information!*

*Then, pass the folder the length of the pew and back.*

### **Prayer for Sunday Morning**

May God be with you.

**And also with you.**

**O God, across all time and space, you are our home.**

**You equip us with hope and protect us by love.**

**Give us grace to build up and encourage each other**

**as we seek wisdom and abundant life,**

**that we may be trustworthy in all things**

**as we work to build your realm.**

**Amen.**

**\* Hymn 367**

**Come, Ye Thankful People, Come**

*St. George's Windsor*

*(see next page for hymn)*

## 367 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.  
 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit in thank-ful praise to yield,  
 3 For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the har - vest home;  
 4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest home.

All is safe - ly gath - ered in, ere the win - ter storms be - gin.  
 wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.  
 from each field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;  
 Gath - er thou thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,

God, our Mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.  
 First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.  
 give the an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,  
 there for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy pres - ence to a - bide:

Come to God's own tem - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.  
 Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.  
 but the fruit - ful ears to store in God's gar - ner ev - er - more.  
 come, with all thine an - gels, come; raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

Despite its familiar Thanksgiving associations, the real concern of this text is to recall the harvest imagery Jesus used to describe the fulfillment of God's sovereignty. The tune name commemorates the royal chapel where the composer was organist for forty-seven years.

## Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession

Holy God, Maker of all:

**Have mercy on us.**

Jesus Christ, servant of the poor:

**Have mercy on us.**

Holy Spirit, Breath of life:

**Have mercy on us.**

**Holy One, we confess that we are not awake for you.**

**We are not faithful in using your gifts.**

**We forget the least of our siblings.**

**We do not see your beautiful image in one another.**

**We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community.**

**Open our hearts to see your coming,  
open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,  
and open our hands to serve your creation.**

*(We continue in silent, personal prayer.)*

### Assurance of Grace

#### \* Response of Praise 590 *(singing together)*

*Hallelujah*



#### \* Sharing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

*(We share peace with a nod or a bow, perhaps with hand on heart or folded hands,  
or with the ASL sign for peace. If worshipping from home, greet each other  
by sending a text, a wave or comment on Facebook or YouTube.)*

\* **Response of Peace 448** (singing together)

*Peace of God Be With You/As-salaamu takum*

Am G F Am G F C

Peace of God be with you. Peace of God be with you. Sa -  
As - sa - laa - mu la - kum. As - sa - laa - mu la - kum. Sa -

Dm F Am G F Am

laam, sa - laam, Peace of God be with you.  
laam, sa - laam, As - sa - laa - mu la - kum.

**Words of Welcome**

## ENCOUNTER

**Prayer for Illumination**

**First Lesson:** Psalm 100

- <sup>1</sup> Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.
- <sup>2</sup> Worship the LORD with gladness;  
come into his presence with singing.
- <sup>3</sup> Know that the LORD is God.  
It is he that made us, and we are his;  
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
- <sup>4</sup> Enter his gates with thanksgiving,  
and his courts with praise.  
Give thanks to him, bless his name.
- <sup>5</sup> For the LORD is good;  
his steadfast love endures for ever,  
and his faithfulness to all generations.

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Children's Prayer

**Minute for Mission** – Alternative Gift Fair

Tyler & Kipton Williams

### The Lord's Prayer

*Afterwards, children ages 4-7 may go with Ms. Kathy Moore to Godly Play.*

*Parents can pick up their children following worship in Rooms 110 & 113.*

*Older children, grades 2-5, may go with Ms. Cathy Lindenmann to The Worship Bridge.*

*They will return to the sanctuary later in the worship service.*

*(It is the church's policy to not put images of children on the livestream.)*

**Our Father, who art in heaven,**

**hallowed be Thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come,**

**Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For Thine is the kingdom, and the power,**

**and the glory forever.**

**Amen.**

### Second Lesson: Philippians 4:4-9

<sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup> Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup> Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. <sup>9</sup> Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

For the Word of God in Scripture,

For the Word of God among us,

For the Word of God within us:

**Thanks be to God!**

### Sermon

How Do You Get to Carnegie Hall?

Rev. Mary Speers

*(after the sermon, we observe a time of silence and prayer)*

## RESPOND AND SERVE

### \* Affirmation of Faith

*Based on Psalm 1, John 7:37-38, and the life motto of John Calvin*

How blessed by God we are!  
We strive not to follow the advice of the wicked,  
or take the path that sinners tread,  
or sit in the seat of scoffers.  
Instead, we strive to delight in the way of the Holy One,  
and we will meditate on God's rule of life day and night.  
We will be like trees,  
planted by streams of water which yield fruit in its season,  
and our leaves will not wither.  
Out of our hearts will flow rivers of living water,  
quenching the thirst of the world.  
We pray that all we do, we will do for the glory of God.  
We offer God our hearts, freely and sincerely.

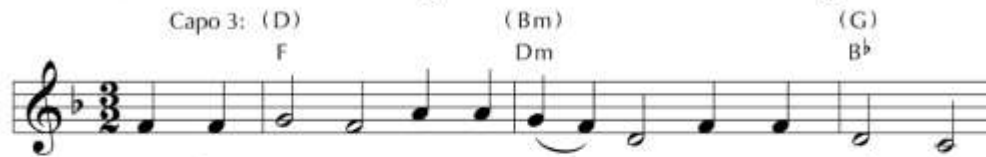
### \* Hymn 716

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

*Beach Spring*

*(see next page for hymn)*

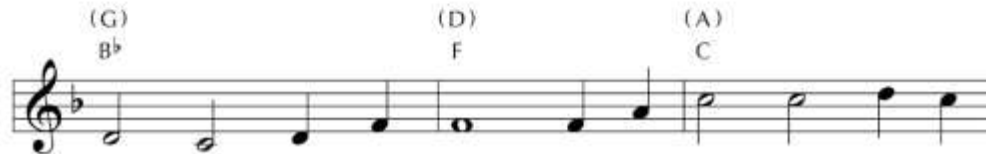
# God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending 716



1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and  
 2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of  
 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through powers your



end - less store, na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly  
 Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es  
 grace con - ferred: ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to



cross, grave's shat - tered door: gift - ed by you, we turn  
 joined, the church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly  
 spread the gos - pel word. O - pen wide our hands in



to you, of - fer - ing up our - selves in praise; thank - ful song shall  
 la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone. Born with tal - ents,  
 shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call, heal - ing, teach - ing,



rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.  
 make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.  
 and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

This text on stewardship was one of about 450 submissions in a search for such hymns conducted by the Hymn Society of America in 1961. These words are well grounded by their musical setting, an early American shape note tune named for a Baptist church in Harris County, Georgia.

TEXT: Robert L. Edwards, 1961, alt.  
 MUSIC: *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; harm. James H. Wood, 1958  
 Text © 1961, ren. 1989 *The Hymn Society* (admin. Hope Publishing Company)  
 Music Harm. © 1958, ren. 1986 Broadman Press (admin. Music Services)

BEACH SPRING  
 8.7.8.7.D



## **Concerns and Remembrances**

### **Prayers of Gratitude and Concern**

God of unfailing light,  
**Hear our prayer.**

### **Concluding Prayer** *(together)*

**God, you have called your servants  
to ventures of which we cannot see the ending,  
by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown.  
Give us faith to go out with good courage,  
not knowing where we go,  
but only that your hand is leading us  
and your love supporting us;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## The Offering

### Offertory Anthem

Look at the World

John Rutter

#### \* Doxology 36, verse 3 *(singing together)*

*For the Fruit of All Creation*

3. For the har - vests of the Spir - it,  
thanks be to God.  
For the good we all in - her - it,  
thanks be to God.  
For the won - ders that as - tound us,  
for the truths that still con - found us,  
most of all that love has found us,  
thanks be to God.

#### \* Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Give thanks to God, for God is good!

**God's steadfast love endures forever.**

*(We stand quietly as the liturgist offers a prayer.)*

## SEND AND BLESS

### This Week at First Presbyterian Church

#### \* Hymn 643

Now Thank We All Our God

*Nun Danket Alle Gott*

*(see next page for hymn)*

THANKSGIVING

# 643 Now Thank We All Our God

1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voice,  
2 O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
3 All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,

who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;  
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;  
to Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:

who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way  
and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,

with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.  
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.  
the God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.

Although this hymn is often used on large and festive occasions, its first two stanzas had much humbler beginnings: they originated as a family table prayer during the Thirty Years' War (1618–1648). These words have been associated with this tune since the mid-17th century.

TEXT: Martin Rinkart, c. 1636; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1858, alt.  
MUSIC: Johann Crüger, 1647; harm. Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT  
6.7.6.7.6.6.6.6

\* **Closing Responses**

On our heads and our houses,

**The blessing of God.**

In our coming and going

**The peace of God.**

In our life and believing

**The love of God.**

At our end and new beginning

**The arms of God to welcome us and bring us home.**

\* **Benediction**

\* **Response 543, verse 5** *(singing together)*

*God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me*



5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that  
hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:  
O Christ, sur-round me; O Christ, sur-round me.

**Postlude**

Prelude in F

*attr. to Johann Sebastian Bach*



## WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate in the worship, education, mission and common life of First Church.*

### First Church Cares

**To notify staff** of personal concerns, illness, hospitalization; to pass along a prayer request; or to arrange homebound Communion, contact [churchoffice@firstpreshc.org](mailto:churchoffice@firstpreshc.org) or call 410-730-3545.

### Interested in the mission and activities of First Presbyterian Church?

Visit the church's website, [www.firstpreshc.org](http://www.firstpreshc.org) for more info.

### Program Staff

If you need to talk with one of the staff, please contact them directly via email.

Virginia Callegary, Director of Christian Education, [churchoffice@firstpreshc.org](mailto:churchoffice@firstpreshc.org)

Margaret McGillivray, Director of Music Ministries, [churchoffice@firstpreshc.org](mailto:churchoffice@firstpreshc.org)

**For building emergencies contact**, Church Sexton, Woody Collins, [churchoffice@firstpreshc.org](mailto:churchoffice@firstpreshc.org)

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### The First Presbyterian Church of Howard County

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410.730.3545 | [www.firstpreshc.org](http://www.firstpreshc.org)

*Ministers: All members of the congregation*

Virginia Callegary, Director of Christian Education  
Dr. Margaret McGillivray, Director of Music Ministries  
Caroline Smith, Church Administrator  
Pat Travers, Bookkeeper  
Woodrow Collins, Church Sexton  
Kathy Moore, Godly Play Coordinator  
Marla Youkers, Nursery Coordinator  
Sarah Reinhardt, Nursery Assistant

The First Presbyterian Church of Howard County is a congregation of  
the Presbytery of Baltimore in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

✦ We are an Earth Care Congregation ✦

✦ We are a Matthew 25 Congregation ✦

*Inspirit Counseling Services* at First Presbyterian Church  
Meredith Barger 410-433-8861 x104 | John Michalczyk 410-433-8861 x115

